Appln. No.: 09/542,460

## REMARKS

 $\label{eq:claims} Claims~1,~3,~4,~12,~14,~16,~18,~20,~22~and~23~are~presented~for~consideration,$  with Claim 1 being independent.

An editorial change has been made to Claim 1 to correct a typographical error.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C.

office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Scott D. Malpede/

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